

Remarks

The Office Action mailed December 15, 2004 and made final, and the Advisory Action mailed April 4, 2005 have been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-17 and 21-25 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 and 21-25 stand rejected.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a three-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2004 and made final, and the Advisory Action dated April 4, 2005, for the above-identified patent application from March 15, 2005 through and including June 15, 2005. Authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384 in the amount of \$1,020.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith. If any additional extension fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 01-2384. A duplicate of this Petition is enclosed.

The rejection of Claims 1-17 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,647,383 ("August") is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that August does not describe or suggest the claimed invention. As discussed below, at least one of the differences between August and the present invention is that August does not describe or suggest a method for displaying search results using a computer that includes storing data files within a plurality of databases *wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier*. (Emphasis added.)

Moreover, August does not describe or suggest assigning the user to at least one customized business community *by enabling the user to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities*. (Emphasis added.)

Furthermore, August does not describe or suggest displaying on the computer search results from the plurality of databases, each search result satisfies the entered search terms and corresponds to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, *each search result includes at least one of the stored data files.* (Emphasis added.)

Additionally, August does not describe or suggest displaying a subset of the search results as a result of *the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user,* the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. (Emphasis added.)

August describes a system and method for information searching. The method includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. The manipulating of results includes determining if the search returned in excess of a predetermined large number of results, clustering the results into feature groups based on results of the determining, and summarizing the results into a display entity with dynamic attributes based on the manipulating.

Claim 1 recites a method for displaying search results using a computer, the method includes “storing data files within a plurality of databases wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier...inputting into the computer user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assigning the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assigning the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to select the at least

one customized business community from a list of business communities...prompting the user to enter search terms into the computer for performing a search for information...displaying on the computer search results from the plurality of databases, each search result satisfies the entered search terms and corresponds to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files...and displaying a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.”

August neither describes nor suggests the method recited in Claim 1. More specifically, August neither describes nor suggests a method for displaying search results using a computer that includes storing data files within a plurality of databases *wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier*.

Notably, August describes at Col. 19, lines 1-19 creating a proxy source catalogue by “identifying known subject matter sources including but not limited to journals, newspapers, magazines, web sites, brick and mortar sources, paper published sources, etc...Thus, resources on the network of networks can be catalogued by labeling each known resource (journals, periodicals, publications, organizational publications, professional publications, newspapers, personal sites, business sites, catalogues, library resources, market research, etc.), identifying COI's interested in each known resource, correlating vocabulary used in known resources with COI, and periodically checking the vocabulary and update it with new buzz words, jargon, etc.” However, August does not describe or teach storing data files within a plurality of databases *wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier*. Applicants submit that merely labeling each known resource and identifying COI's interested in each known resource as described in August does not describe or teach this element of Claim 1.

Moreover, August does not describe or suggest assigning the user to at least one customized business community *by enabling the user to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities*. (Emphasis added.)

Notably, although August describes at Col. 3, lines 40-46 a system and method that includes determining “in fine granularity a Community of Interest (COI) and further evaluation of search results using COI and/or expert preferences to identify important knowledge, formulate, manipulate, and display results, and summarize search results...”, August does not describe or teach assigning the user to at least one customized business community *by enabling the user to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities*. In fact, August does not describe or teach allowing the user to select a Community of Interest that the user wishes to be assigned to. Rather, in August, the system itself (not the user) assigns the user to a COI based on a Personality Profile Catalogue.

More specifically, August describes a “Personality Profile Catalogue” that contains the interests and preferences, or profiles, of users and a “Source Characterization Database” having information relating to a user’s interests and preferences from various sources. August also describes a system and method for information searching that includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. Accordingly, in August, the system does not allow the user *to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities*, but rather, the system itself assigns the user to a COI.

Furthermore, August does not describe or suggest displaying on the computer search results from the plurality of databases, each search result satisfies the entered search terms and corresponds to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, *each search result includes at least one of the stored data files*. As stated above, August does not describe or teach storing data files within a plurality of databases *wherein each data file is*

assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier. Accordingly, August cannot describe or teach displaying search results from the plurality of databases wherein each search result includes at least one of the stored data files, which has been previously assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier.

Additionally, August does not describe or suggest displaying a subset of the search results as a result of *the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user*, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. (Emphasis added.)

Rather, August describes a system and method for information searching that includes determining at least one of interests and preferences for a user conducting an information search, conducting the information search, evaluating the results of the search based on at least one of the interests and preferences, learning at least one of new interests and new preferences for the user based on the evaluation, and manipulating the results based on the evaluation. August does not describe, teach or even mention *a search zoom tool displayed on the computer* that enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user wherein the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over August.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of Claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7 and 24 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-7 and 24 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1,

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 2-7 and 24 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 8 recites a computer having a user interface and a processor, the processor programmed to “store data files within at least one database wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier, the at least one database is coupled to the computer...receive user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user...assign the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assign the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities displayed on the user interface...prompt the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information...display on said user interface search results from the at least one database, each search result satisfies the entered search terms and corresponds to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files...and display on said user interface a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the user interface, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.”

Claim 8, as herein amended, recites a computer comprising a user interface, and a processor, wherein the processor is programmed to perform steps essentially similar to those recited in Claim 1. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 8 is patentable over August for reasons that correspond to those given with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, it is further submitted that Claim 8 is patentable over August.

For at least the reasons as set forth above, Claim 8 is submitted to be patentable over August.

Claims 9-17 and 25 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 8. When the recitations of Claims 9-17 and 25 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 8, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 9-17 and 25 likewise are patentable over August.

Claim 21 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface coupled to a computer, the program comprising a code segment that receives user data including at least one of an organization associated with the user, a function associated with the user, and a geographic location of the user and then “stores data files within at least one database wherein each data file is assigned a business community identifier and a sub-business community identifier...assigns the user to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community based on the user data...assigns the user to at least one customized business community by enabling the user to select the at least one customized business community from a list of business communities...prompts the user to enter search terms for performing a search for information...displays on the user interface search results from the at least one database, each search result satisfies the entered search terms and corresponds to at least one business community and at least one sub-business community, each search result includes at least one of the stored data files...and displays on the user interface a subset of the search results as a result of the user selecting a search zoom tool displayed on the computer, the search zoom tool enables the user to display a subset of the search results based on at least one of the business community assigned to the user, the sub-business community assigned to the user and the at least one customized business community assigned to the user, the displayed subset of search results includes each search result from the performed search having been previously assigned to the corresponding user selection.”

Claim 21, as herein amended, recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for displaying search results on a user interface coupled to a computer, the

program includes a code segment programmed to perform steps essentially similar to those recited in Claim 1. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 21 is patentable over August for reasons that correspond to those given with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, it is further submitted that Claim 21 is patentable over August.

For at least the reasons as set forth above, Claim 21 is submitted to be patentable over August.

Claims 22 and 23 depend from independent Claim 21. When the recitations of Claims 22 and 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 21, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 22 and 23 likewise are patentable over August.

For at least the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to Claims 1-17 and 21-25 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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